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Attorneys for Defendant Novell, Inc.

## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF UTAH, CENTRAL DIVISION

THE SCO GROUP, INC., a Delaware corporation,

Plaintiff,

VS.

NOVELL, INC., a Delaware corporation, Defendant.

**NOVELL, INC.'S MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE** 

Case No. 2:04CV00139

Judge Dale A. Kimball

Defendant Novell, Inc. ("Novell"), by and through its counsel of record, respectfully moves this Court for a continuance of the hearing on Novell's Motion to Dismiss Amended Complaint, currently scheduled for March 8, 2005, due to an unforeseen scheduling conflict that has developed for Novell's lead counsel, Michael A. Jacobs.

### FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The parties in this matter and their respective counsel have been cooperative and accommodating with regard to filing deadlines and scheduling matters. On several different occasions, each party has accommodated the busy schedules and workloads of the other party and its lead counsel, recognizing the complexity of the issues involved in this litigation, resulting in seven joint stipulations to extend the filing deadlines for briefs. (See Stipulations, on file with the Court.) Indeed, nearly every brief submitted by the parties in this matter was filed *after* the initial filing deadline upon the consent of the opposing party and its counsel, and a corresponding Order from the Court.

The same holds true for hearings. Indeed, at SCO's request, Novell previously stipulated to continue the hearing on its pending Motion to Dismiss from February 1, 2005, to its currently scheduled date, March 8, 2005, to accommodate the schedule of SCO's counsel, Edward J. Normand of SCO's lead law firm Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, whom SCO chose to present oral argument at the hearing on its behalf. (See Declaration of Heather M. Sneddon ("Sneddon Decl."), attached hereto as Exhibit "A", ¶¶ 3-6; SCO's Notice of Amended Hearing Date, attached hereto as Exhibit "B".)

However, Novell's lead counsel, Michael A. Jacobs of Morrison & Foerster LLP, is currently engaged in a trial in San Jose, California, which due to unanticipated circumstances, will continue through the current hearing date of March 8. (See Declaration of Michael A. Jacobs ("Jacobs Decl."), attached hereto as Exhibit "C", ¶ 4.) The San Jose trial was originally scheduled for February 7 through March 1, 2005, allowing Mr. Jacobs to appear at the March 8 hearing. (See id.) However, the trial is going longer than anticipated, and the trial court's

schedule has resulted in about a week of days on which trial could not occur. As a result, Mr. Jacobs anticipates that the trial will continue until March 23, 2005. (See id.)

As soon as Mr. Jacobs learned of this situation, he contacted Novell's local counsel, Heather M. Sneddon, asking that she request that SCO stipulate to a two-week continuance of the hearing date. (See id. ¶ 5.) Ms. Sneddon then contacted SCO's counsel, Mr. Normand, requesting that SCO stipulate to a two-week continuance to accommodate the conflict that developed with Mr. Jacobs' schedule. (See Sneddon Decl., Ex. A hereto, ¶ 8.) After a few discussions between Ms. Sneddon and Mr. Normand, and following Ms. Sneddon's inquiry to Judge Kimball's case manager regarding the availability of other dates to reschedule the hearing, Mr. Normand informed Ms. Sneddon that SCO was unwilling to stipulate to a continuance that, due to the Court's calendar, would amount to a two-month delay. (See id. ¶¶ 9-10.) On February 23, 2005, Ms. Sneddon sent a letter to Mr. Normand to confirm the conversation. (See id. ¶ 11 & Ex. 1 thereto).) Mr. Normand responded the next morning by email, clarifying that SCO's unwillingness to stipulate to the continuance was due to the fact that the Court does not have any available dates to reschedule the hearing until the week of April 25 at the earliest, and Mr. Normand is not available that week because he is scheduled to be in trial in the Southern District of New York during that time. (See id. ¶ 12 & Ex. 2 thereto).

### <u>ARGUMENT</u>

# THE COURT SHOULD GRANT NOVELL'S MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE AND RESCHEDULE THE HEARING ON NOVELL'S PENDING MOTION TO DISMISS FOR THE EARLIEST AVAILABLE DATE AFTER MARCH 23.

It is well-established that "[m]otions for continuance are addressed to the sound discretion of the trial court." Robinson v. United States, 718 F.2d 336, 338 n.1 (10th Cir. 1983).

The circumstances surrounding Novell's Motion for Continuance are such that the motion should be granted.

First, Novell's need for a continuance is not the result of dilatory or bad faith conduct. Rather, the conflict with Novell's lead counsel's schedule -- giving rise to the instant motion -- only surfaced after Novell accommodated the schedule of SCO's counsel in stipulating to a continuance of the hearing. Indeed, prior to indulging SCO's request for a stipulation to continue the hearing until March 8, Mr. Jacobs was prepared to argue Novell's Motion to Dismiss on the scheduled date of February 1. As soon as Mr. Jacobs determined that his current trial would extend beyond its allotted time and impede upon the March 8 hearing date, Novell sought SCO's cooperation in continuing the hearing date. When SCO indicated an unwillingness to stipulate to a continuance that would require a two-month delay due to the Court's busy calendar, Novell brought the present motion. Thus, Novell's actions have been exceedingly reasonable, diligent and timely.

Second, Novell will be prejudiced if the Court does not grant a continuance of the hearing, because Novell will not be able have its counsel of choice appear at the hearing on its behalf and present oral argument. Mr. Jacobs has acted as Novell's principal counsel in this matter from the beginning. In his Application for Pro Hac Vice Admission, which was granted by the Court on February 10, 2004, Mr. Jacobs marked that he would be serving as "lead counsel" for Novell in this matter. (See Michael A. Jacobs' Application for Pro Hac Vice Admission, on file with the Court.) He appeared before the Court on behalf of Novell to argue Novell's first Motion to Dismiss, and he has overseen the preparation and filing of every pleading submitted by Novell in this matter. (See Jacobs Decl., Ex. C hereto, ¶ 3.) Of Novell's

counsel, Mr. Jacobs has the most comprehensive knowledge of the underlying material facts in this case, and the best understanding of the legal issues raised by Novell's pending Motion to Dismiss. Accordingly, Novell should be entitled to have Mr. Jacobs appear on its behalf at the hearing. See Wainwright v. Kraftco Corp., 58 F.R.D. 9, 14 (N.D. Ga. 1973) ("[A] client who has given a court ample notice of its desire to be represented by a specific attorney ought to be assured of such representation if at all possible.")

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Third, the interests of justice weigh in favor of granting the continuance. In a case such as this, involving complicated legal questions, the interests of justice require that both parties be represented by able counsel, well-informed on the facts and the pertinent law. See Smith-Weik Mach. Corp. v. Murdock Mach. & Eng'g Co., 423 F.2d 842, 844 (5th Cir. 1970). Mr. Jacobs' unexpected inability to appear at the scheduled hearing on behalf of Novell due to his involvement in a long-running trial, combined with local counsel's relative unfamiliarity with the pertinent legal issues, "tip[s] the scales so heavily in favor of the plaintiff [SCO] as to effectually deprive the defendant [Novell] of its rightful day in court." Id. This is particularly true when Novell previously stipulated to a continuance of the hearing to allow SCO the opportunity to use its counsel of choice, Mr. Normand. Novell should be afforded the same opportunity.

Lastly, SCO will suffer no prejudice as a result of the continuance. Novell has only requested a continuance of approximately two weeks, and even if the Court is unable to reschedule the hearing for two months, such a delay will have no effect on the underlying litigation. This is particularly true when the continuance is sought for a motion hearing, not a trial.

### CONCLUSION

While Novell and its counsel understand SCO's reluctance to delay this matter for two months, the present conflict with Novell's lead counsel's schedule only surfaced after Novell indulged SCO's request for a stipulation to continue the hearing until March 8, even though Mr. Jacobs was prepared to argue Novell's Motion to Dismiss on the scheduled date of February 1. Novell has acted in a diligent and timely manner in filing the present motion, and Novell will be prejudiced if the Court does not grant a continuance of the hearing date. SCO will not be prejudiced by a continuance. Accordingly, Novell requests that the Court reschedule the hearing on its pending Motion to Dismiss for the earliest date that the Court has available following March 23, on which the parties and their respective lead counsel, Mr. Normand and Mr. Jacobs, are available.

DATED:

February 28, 2005.

ANDERSON & KARRENBERG

Middely

John P. Mullen

Heather M. Sneddon

Attorneys for Defendant Novell, Inc.

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on February 28, 2005, I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing NOVELL, INC.'S MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE, to be served as indicated below:

### Via Hand-delivery, upon:

Brent O. Hatch Mark R. Clements HATCH JAMES & DODGE, P.C. 10 West Broadway, Suite 400 Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

### Via Facsimile and U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, upon:

Kevin P. McBride 1299 Ocean Avenue, Suite 900 Santa Monica, California 90401

Stephen N. Zack Mark J. Heise BOIES, SCHILLER & FLEXNER LLP 100 Southeast Second Street, Suite 2800 Miami, Florida 33131

Robert Silver BOIES, SCHILLER & FLEXNER LLP 333 Main Street Armonk, New York 10504

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Facsimile: (801) 364-7697

### Attorneys for Defendant Novell, Inc.

## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF UTAH, CENTRAL DIVISION

THE SCO GROUP, INC., a Delaware corporation,

Plaintiff,

VS.

NOVELL, INC., a Delaware corporation,

Defendant.

DECLARATION OF HEATHER M. SNEDDON IN SUPPORT OF **NOVELL, INC.'S MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE** 

Case No. 2:04CV00139

Judge Dale A. Kimball

Heather M. Sneddon, under penalty of perjury, declares the following:

I submit this declaration in support of Novell, Inc.'s Motion for Continuance. The statements made herein are based on my personal knowledge.

- 2. I am an attorney duly licensed to practice law in the State of Utah and an associate in the law firm of Anderson & Karrenberg, P.C., local counsel of record for defendant Novell, Inc. ("Novell") in this action.
- 3. On approximately January 13, 2005, I received a call from Edward J. Normand of Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, counsel for The SCO Group, Inc. ("SCO") in this action. Mr. Normand informed me that he would be appearing on behalf of SCO to present oral argument at the hearing on Novell's Motion to Dismiss Amended Complaint, which was scheduled for February 1, 2005.
- 4. Mr. Normand asked me whether Novell would be willing to stipulate to a two or three-week extension of the February 1 hearing date. He informed me that he was not involved in earlier discussions between counsel to set the February 1 date, and that his wife was due to give birth only a few days following February 1. Mr. Normand also indicated that his firm was busy trying to complete discovery in another matter involving SCO.
- 5. On approximately January 18, 2005, I telephoned Mr. Normand to inform him that Novell was willing to stipulate to such a continuance.
- 6. After consultation with Judge Kimball's case manager, the hearing was subsequently rescheduled for March 8, 2005, consistent with the availability of Mr. Normand and Novell's lead counsel, Michael A. Jacobs, at that time.
- 7. On approximately February 18, 2005, however, Mr. Jacobs informed me that due to a long-running trial in which he was currently involved, he would no longer be available for the March 8 hearing. He asked that I contact SCO's counsel to request a stipulation to continue the hearing for approximately two weeks to accommodate Mr. Jacobs' schedule.
- 8. Accordingly, I contacted Mr. Normand on approximately February 18, 2005, requesting that SCO stipulate to a two-week continuance of the March 8 hearing date. I informed Mr. Normand of Mr. Jacobs' ongoing trial, and of Mr. Jacobs' anticipation that it would continue past the March 8 hearing date.

Upon consulting Judge Kimball's case manager regarding the Court's available dates to reschedule the March 8 hearing, I learned that the earliest dates available for the Court to reschedule the hearing would be April 25-28. I also relayed this information to Mr. Normand.

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- Mr. Normand subsequently contacted me and informed me that SCO was unwilling to stipulate to a continuance of the March 8 hearing date because, given the Court's availability, the continuance would amount to a delay of approximately two months.
- On February 23, 2005, I sent a letter to Mr. Normand confirming our conversation 11. regarding the continuance. A true and correct copy of my February 23 letter is attached hereto as Exhibit "1".
- On February 24, 2005, I received an email from Mr. Normand, clarifying SCO's 12. position with regard to the continuance. A true and correct copy of Mr. Normand's email is attached hereto as Exhibit "2".

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on this 28 day of February, 2005, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Acuther L. Snelder

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on February 28, 2005, I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing DECLARATION OF HEATHER M. SNEDDON IN SUPPORT OF NOVELL, INC.'S MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE, to be served as indicated below:

### Via Hand-delivery, upon:

Brent O. Hatch Mark R. Clements HATCH JAMES & DODGE, P.C. 10 West Broadway, Suite 400 Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

### Via Facsimile and U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, upon:

Kevin P. McBride 1299 Ocean Avenue, Suite 900 Santa Monica, California 90401

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Robert Silver BOIES, SCHILLER & FLEXNER LLP 333 Main Street Armonk, New York 10504

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> JOHN T. ANDERSON Of Counsel

February 23, 2005

Via Facsimile No. 914-749-8300 and U.S. Mail

Edward J. Normand Boies, Schiller & Flexner, LLP 333 Main Street Armonk, New York 10504

Re: The SCO Group, Inc. v. Novell, Inc.

Dear Ted:

This letter shall confirm our conversation this afternoon, wherein you informed me that SCO is unwilling to stipulate to a continuance of the hearing date on Novell's Motion to Dismiss, due to the fact that the Court does not have any available dates to reschedule the hearing until the end of April.

Accordingly, Novell will be filing an appropriate motion with the Court.

Very truly yours,

Heather M. Sneddon

Densher M. Sneddeen

cc:

Novell, Inc.

Michael A. Jacobs, Esq.

FEB/23/2005/WED 05:32 PM

FAX(TX)

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### FAX TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO:

Edward J. Normand

FAX NO.:

914-749-8300

FROM:

Nathan B. Wilcox

DATE:

February 23, 2005

CLIENT:

Novell (90068.31)

PAGES:

2, including cover page

Message:			

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS FACSIMILE MESSAGE IS PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY NAMED ABOVE. IF THE READER OF THIS MESSAGE IS NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, OR THE EMPLOYEE OR AGENT RESPONSIBLE TO DELIVER IT TO THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY DISSEMINATION, DISTRIBUTION OR COPYING OF THIS DOCUMENT IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS COMMUNICATION IN ERROR, PLEASE NOTIFY US BY TELEPHONE IMMEDIATELY SO THAT WE CAN ARRANGE FOR THE RETURN OF THE DOCUMENTS TO US AT NO COST TO YOU.

SENT BY:

Michelle Rizzuto

### **Heather Sneddon**

From: Ted Normand [TNormand@BSFLLP.com] Sent: Thursday, February 24, 2005 7:18 AM

To: Heather Sneddon

Heather - I received your letter. The basis for SCO's unwillingness to stipulate to a continuance of the hearing date on Novell's second Motion to Dismiss not only is that the Court did not propose any available dates to reschedule the hearing until April 25-28, but also because on those dates counsel for SCO is scheduled to be in trial in Bankruptcy Court in the Southern District of New York, and therefore (given the current schedule) could not argue the motion on those dates. As a consequence, although Novell wants and has asked for no more than a 10- or 14-day extension of the hearing date, the stipulation apparently would require SCO to agree to an extension of approximately two months. If you file a motion, as you and I discussed yesterday, we will explain those circumstances to the Court.

**Ted Normand** 

26 2005



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### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

### FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH

THE SCO GROUP, INC. A Delaware corporation,

Plaintiff

VS.

NOVELL, INC., A Delaware corporation,

Defendant

NOTICE OF AMENDED HEARING DATE

Civil No. 2:04CV00139

Honorable Dale A. Kimball

Pursuant to consultations with the Court, and all parties being in agreement,

Novell, Inc.'s Motion to Dismiss, formerly scheduled to be heard February 1, 2005, will now be
heard by Judge Kimball on March 8, 2005 at 3 p.m.

DATED this th day of January, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

HATCH, JAMES & DODGE, P.C. Brent O. Hatch Mark F. James

BOIES, SCHILLER & FLEXNER LLP Robert Silver Stephen N. Zack Edward Normand Sean Eskovitz

Counsel for The SCO Group, Inc.

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Plaintiff The SCO Group, Inc., hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Notice of Amended Hearing Date was served by mail on Defendant Novell on the \_th day of January, 2005, by placing the same in U.S. Mail, postage prepaid to:

Thomas R. Karrenberg, Esq. John P. Mullen, Esq. Heather M. Sneddon, Esq. ANDERSON & KARRENBERG 700 Bank One Tower 50 West Broadway Salt Lake City, UT 84101

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Counsel for Novell, Inc.

Shurak Chaves.

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Attorneys for Defendant Novell, Inc.

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF UTAH, CENTRAL DIVISION

THE SCO GROUP, INC., a Delaware corporation,

Plaintiff,

VS.

NOVELL, INC., a Delaware corporation,

Defendant.

DECLARATION OF MICHAEL A. JACOBS IN SUPPORT OF NOVELL, INC.'S MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE

Case No. 2:04CV00139

Judge Dale A. Kimball

Michael A. Jacobs, under penalty of perjury, declares the following:

1. I submit this declaration in support of Novell, Inc.'s Motion for Continuance. The statements made herein are based on my personal knowledge.

- I am an attorney duly licensed to practice law in the State of California and a partner in the law firm of Morrison & Foerster LLP, counsel of record for defendant Novell, Inc. ("Novell") in this action. I was admitted as lead counsel to practice before this Court pro hac vice by this Court's February 10, 2004 Order.
- Since the engagement of Morrison & Foerster LLP as Novell's counsel in this action, I have served as Novell's lead counsel. To that end, I have overseen the preparation and filing of every pleading submitted by Novell in this matter, and I appeared before the Court on behalf of Novell to argue Novell's first Motion to Dismiss on May 11, 2004.
- 4. I am presently engaged as lead defense counsel in a civil case currently being tried in San Jose, California, Lexar Media, Inc. v. Toshiba Corporation, Santa Clara Superior Court No. CV812458. The trial was originally scheduled for February 7 through March 1, 2005. However, the trial is going longer than anticipated and the trial court's schedule has resulted in about a week of days on which trial could not occur. At this juncture, I anticipate that the trial will continue until March 23, 2005, and as a result, I will be unavailable for the scheduled March 8, 2005 hearing on Novell's Motion to Dismiss Amended Complaint in this action.
- Upon determining that the trial in the San Jose case would be continuing beyond the scheduled hearing date on Novell's Motion to Dismiss Amended Complaint, I immediately contacted Novell's local counsel, Heather M. Sneddon, asking that she seek a stipulation from The SCO Group, Inc. to continue the hearing date.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on this 25 day of February, 2005, in San Jose, California.

Michael A. Jacobs

Page 20 of 20

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on February 28, 2005, I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing DECLARATION OF MICHAEL A. JACOBS IN SUPPORT OF NOVELL, INC.'S MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE, to be served as indicated below:

Via Hand-delivery, upon:

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### Via Facsimile and U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, upon:

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